Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3744

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT AO

SUBJECT: ROUNDUP OF ANGOLAN SCENE

CINCLANT AND CINCEUR FOR POLAD

1. THE SITUATION IN ANGOLA MORE THAN A WEEK AFTER PUBLICATION OF THE NAKURU AGREEMENT REMAINS QUIET BUT TENSE. SOME SHOOTING IS STILL HEARD AT NIGHT AND OCCASIONAL MORTAR AND BAZOOKA ROUNDS ARE FIRED IN THE SLUMS. IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE WE WILL REPORT ON FNLA CAPTURE/MURDER OF MPLA TROOPS AND THE SUBSEQUENT BEATING TO DEATH OF AN FNLA SOLDIER IN LUANDA. THE FNLA TROOPS IN LUANDA ARE NERVOUS AND HOSTILE TO VIRTUALLY EVERYONE. MPLA IS RELAXED AND CONFIDENT AND UNITA IS LITTLE IN EVIDENCE. SOME OF THE SMALLER GARRISONS IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CITY HAVE BEEN CLOSED AND THE TROOPS GATHERED IN LARGER

CONCENTRATIONS. THE FAMILIES OF TOP LIBERATION OFFICIALS ARE SAID TO BE LEAVING FOR SAFER CLIMES. THIS IN TURN HAS GIVEN RISE TO RUMORS THAT A BIG BATTLE IS SHAPING UP IN JULY.

- 2. AMONG WHITES THERE IS AN ALMOST TOTAL LACK OF INTEREST IN THE NAKURU AGREEMENT. MOST HAVE MADE PLANS TO LEAVE AND THEY HAVE NO FAITH IN THE ABILITY OR THE DESIRE OF THE LIBERATION GROUPS TO KEEP THE PEACE. ALL FLIGHTS TO LISBON ARE BOOKED THROUGH NOVEMBER AND BOOKINGS TO BRAZIL ARE FULL INTO SEPTEMBER. WHITES ARE WORRIED BY HINTS FROM THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT THAT THOSE WITH NEEDED TECHNICAL SKILLS AND KEY JOBS MAY NOT BE PERMITTED TO LEAVE ANGOLA, OR IF PERMITTED, MAY NOT BE ABLE TO EXPORT THEIR BELONGINGS. DEPARTING WHITES MUST SUBMIT TO A BAGGAGE SEARCH AT THE AIRPORT. DEMONSTRATIONS BY WHITE REFUGEES HAVE ENDED NOW THAT SOME ORDER HAS BEEN MADE IN PASSENGER AND FREIGHT BOOKINGS. THE FREIGHT TERMINAL IS SPILLING OVER WITH CARGO AND THERE IS NOT A TRUNK TO BE HAD IN TOWN.
- 3. CONSUMER GOODS SHORTAGES ARE SERIOUS IN LUANDA BUT NOT DESPARATE AND THE SITUATION IS NOT WORSENING. CIGARETTE PRODUCTION SEEMS TO HAVE CAUGHT UP. THERE ARE STILL CRIPPLING SHORTAGES OF SPARE PARTS, INDUSTRIAL AND AUTOMOTIVE. MANY FISHING BOATS ARE DEADLINED FOR LACK OF ENGINE PARTS.
- 4. THE LIBERATION GROUPS HAVE TAKEN FEW STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE NAKURU AGREEMENT, SOME ROADBLOCKS HAVE BEEN REMOVED AND COMMUNIQUES HAVE BEEN ISSUED URGING PEACE AND COOPERATION. MPLA STILL DOES NOT ALLOW FOOD TO MOVE NORTH FROM LUANDA INTO FNLA TERRITORY AND THE PORTUGUESE NAVY IS SENDING TWO VESSELS WITH FOOD AND SUPPLIES TO AMBRIZ AND AMBRIZETE.
- 5. THE DIRECTOR OF THE ANGOLAN SOCIAL SERVICE INSTITUTE HAS PUBLICALLY STATED THAT 25,000 FAMILIES HAVE SIGNED UP TO BE REPATRIATED, A TOTAL OF BETWEEN 75,000 AND 100,000 PERSONS. HE EXPECTS AN ADDITIONAL 22,000 FAMILIES 66,000 TO 88,000 MORE INDIVIDUALS FOR A REPATRIATION TOTAL OF 141,000 TO 188,000. THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 200,000 WHITES LEFT IN ANGOLA, DOWN FROM A HISTORICAL PEAK OF APPROXIMATELY 310,000. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE GAVE STATISTICS TO REPORTERS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHICH SHOWED THAT 180,000 PEOPLE HAVE LEFT ANGOLA SINCE APRIL 25, 1974 AND THAT ANOTHER 170,000 - 200,000 MAY LEAVE. NO EXPLANATION WAS GIVEN OF THE PRESUMED POPULATION ON WHICH THESE FIGURES ARE BASED.

6. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND COMMERCE HAS GROUND TO A HALT IN A NUMBER OF CITIES AND TOWNS IN THE INTERIOR AS A RESULT OF THE FLIGHT OF CIVIL SERVANTS AND MERCHANTS. CARMONA IS

BARELY FUNCTIONING. IN SILVA PORTO LIBERATION TROOPS ARE PURCHASING GOODS WITH HAND GRENADES. THEY LAY THE HAND GRENADE ON THE COUNTER AND DEMAND MERCHANDISE.

7. MANY CAPE VERDEANS WORKED IN THE INTERIOR AS LOW LEVEL GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONARIES AND THEIR FLIGHT HAS HAD A NOTICEABLE EFFECT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES. CAPE VERDEANS I TALKED TO AT A REFUGEE CAMP IN LUANDA SAID THEY WERE MENACED IN LUANDA'S SLUMS BY FNLA TROOPS WHO ACCUSED THEM OF PARTIALITY TOWARD MPLA BECAUSE THE PAIGC, CAPE VERDE'S LIBERATION MOVEMENT, HAS A PROGRAM AND OUTLOOK SIMILAR TO THOSE OF THE MPLA. THE REAL MOTIVE IS ROBBERY - ANYONE WHO CANNOT HAND OVER MONEY OR VALUABLES IS BEATEN.

8. THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS BEGAN MEETING ON JUNE 28 TO TRY AND WORK OUT A FORMULA FOR THE CREATION OF THE NATIONAL ARMY AGREED TO AT NAKURU. MEETINGS CONTINUED THROUGH THE WEEKEND, BUT NO ANNOUNCEMENT HAD BEEN MADE BY JUNE 30.

9. A LARGE AUTOMOBILE DEALER TOLD ME THAT PRIOR TO THE APRIL, 1974 COUP HE SOLD SEVENTY CARS IN AN AVERAGE MONTH.

SALES DECLINED AFTER DECOLONIZATION BEGAN AND BY EARLY THIS YEAR HE WAS SELLING FORTY A MONTH. THIS PAST MONTH OF JUNE HE SOLD JUST TWO CARS AND IS HAVING A GREAT DEAL OF DIFFICULTY IN FINDING MONEY TO PAY WORKERS AND OVERHEAD. FIFTY PER CENT OF HIS WHITE EMPLOYEES HAVE GONE, ALL HIS BACONGO WORKERS HAVE FLED TO THE NORTH AND A NUMBER OF OVIMBUNDOS IN THE FIRM HAVE GONE SOUTH.

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